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FACULTY SENATE
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Call for Press Identification.
2. Comments from Provost Marlin.
3. Announcements from Chair Gable.

OLD BUSINESS

4. Roger Sell, Director of the Center for the Enhancement of Teaching, received responses to questions and the report he presented at the October 10 Senate Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

5. Primrose/Brown moved/seconded that the Faculty Senate study the question of productivity.

De Nault/Primrose moved/seconded to amend the motion to request the Chair organize a retreat for the Senate to discuss faculty productivity.
Motion carried.

The Faculty Senate was called to order at 3:30 p.m. in the Board Room of Gilchrist Hall by Chairperson Gable.

Present: Diane Baum, Leander Brown, John Butler, Phyllis Conklin, Kay Davis, Kenneth De Nault, Sherry Gable, Randall Krieg, Barbara Lounsberry, Katherine Martin, Dean Primrose, Merrie Schroeder, Joel Haack, Surendar Yadava, John Longnecker, ex-officio.

Alternates: Martie Reineke/Edward Amend, Ernest Raiklin/Mahmood Yousefi, Carlin Hageman/Clifford Highnam

Absent: Susan Grosboll, Katherine van Wormer

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Press Identification

No representatives of the press were present.

2. Comments from Provost Marlin.

Provost Marlin stated that at the Board of Regents meeting last week in Iowa City, the major item was tuition. The Board approved a 4.2% resident undergraduate increase. The Board also appointed a committee consisting of Regent Tom Collins, the three Provosts, Beth Krueger (UNI Student Government), and the Director of United Students of Iowa to study why students are not graduating within four years. The enrollment report discussed by the Board showed a decrease in enrollment at UNI which is now 12,572 for the current semester. One gratifying aspect is that minority enrollment increased to 4.2% for undergraduates and to 6.8% for graduate students. She expressed her gratitude to John Somervill of the Graduate College for his effective efforts.

Provost Marlin indicated that the Interinstitutional Committee discussed a transfer/articulation item that she wanted to discuss with the Senate.

The RCER is proposing a program in which 32 hours of selected electronics vocational coursework earned in community colleges for an AAS degree be transferred. Currently UNI uses a point-by-point transfer system for such articulation. Provost Marlin felt this was troublesome in the area of liberal arts because the students could use the transferred credits in electronics to fulfill their general elective requirements. Kay Davis indicated that currently students can transfer 16 such credit hours, but Marlin indicated these hours are internally articulated for the appropriate major. She also commented that the community colleges feel they are working with the Regents on this matter. Provost Marlin indicated that the new wave is to facilitate more tech prep, which is not strictly vocational. Haack commented that the Math Department does accept tech prep math in meeting admission requirements. Primrose felt that the prudent thing to do is to use the point-by-point system for transfer, but also indicated that it is not ethically correct to indicate that all credits will be transferred. Provost Marlin also stated she thought that it was a "truth in advertising" issue, because although the credits transfer, as few as zero might apply to the major in some disciplines.

Reineke commented that the intent of a liberal arts degrees is in danger with such block infusion. Primrose questioned whether in the future many majors would be stretching the number of hours needed or if there would be pressure to decrease the number of hours. Provost Marlin responded that this is an issue that could be investigated by the Senate's Committee on Quality in the Curriculum.

Lounsberry asked if the Interinstitutional Committee would keep this blocked. Provost Marlin stated that she is opposed to the idea of transferring 32 credits to any major, although she supports course-by-course transfer. Baum questioned whether a compromise in hours is possible to allow students to bring in as many as 32 credit hours.

Chair Gable was charged with asking Phil Patton to attend a Faculty Senate meeting to elaborate on this issue. Brown expressed concern about the degree participation.

John Longnecker wondered what the full-time equivalent was in terms of our enrollment in contrast to the past full-time equivalents. Provost Marlin will bring that information to the next meeting.

Lounsberry commented that when she recently attended a workshop on procedure and organization development she discovered the term "pretenured" is being substituted for the term "probationary". She felt this was much better terminology and wondered if Provost Marlin could bring this to the Academic Affairs Counsel and she would ask the United Faculty to request the terms be changed. Provost Marlin agreed that pretenure might be a more accurate term.

With respect to data on persistence distributed at the last Senate meeting, De Nault asked Provost Marlin for the number of students that eventually graduate in the cohort. Provost Marlin commented that looking at a cohort of 1985 freshman in which 30% graduated in four years, 26% in five years, and 6% in six years, and 3% were still enrolled. She stated that national data indicated that beyond six years 4% are still enrolled, so the percentage that will graduate beyond six years is small. Conklin wondered if the 30% graduation in four years was common. Provost Marlin responded that it was higher than the national average, so the concern now is to determine why.

Provost Marlin informed the Senators that the Faculty Senate meeting at the CEEE has been scheduled for November 28.

3. Chair Gable stated that prior to each Board of Regents meeting she receives a document outlining the agenda for the meeting. She will have these documents available for Senator's review. She also stated that she

felt it would be useful for other Senators to attend the Board meetings so that they know what transpires during the meetings. She indicated that the Board will be back on campus in February.

OLD BUSINESS

4. Roger Sell, Director of the Center of the Enhancement of Teaching, was present to receive response to questions and the report he presented at the October 10 Senate Meeting.

Brown remarked regarding the question on how to reach the 60% who have not participated that it is important to emphasize that the Center is a place where good teachers go to collaborate with other good teachers. He felt word of mouth was a good way to get more teachers involved. Reineke stated that the greatest obstacle for teachers is time and recommended that short sessions be held instead of three-hour sessions and that the sessions be dispersed throughout the day.

Haack suggested that ideas could be distributed throughout the campus, either electronically by a notes conference or via mail. Lounsberry stated that special interest groups may wish to pursue journaling in a book.

Gable suggested that the Center should be using some sort of research base because there are so many teaching strategies which faculty might use. Each strategy has its own effectiveness.

Schroeder mentioned that Hyper Cards are used at Price Lab and wondered whether there could be a collaboration, or combined use of technology.

Lounsberry suggested that the Center find some way to ask faculty what their interests are, possibly a letter to faculty at the beginning of the academic year.

Yadava stated that the Center is very useful and has vast resources. The center was especially helpful to him when writing a student outcomes report.

Brown felt that a priority is to articulate what good teaching is. Sell stated that the Center is conducting teaching seminars to a group of new faculty. The seminars document teaching effectiveness and generate an intellectual bias for the dimension of teaching.

Lounsberry asked whether there was any way in which faculty evaluations could be made more constructive. Brown echoed this and indicated there is a need for some kind of transmission that taps into what is to be achieved in the classroom. Sell stated that there are a number of standardized student evaluation instruments available which identify general goals and objectives for classes.

Schroeder wondered if the Center was pivotal regarding faculty productivity. Sell responded that the Center is looking at an intellectual component to identify research. Schroeder expressed that it seems like the Center is the heartbeat of the quality aspect of teaching.

Brown stated that regarding multi-culturalism it's important to not sit around complacently, but focus on faculty productivity and effectiveness.

Sell concluded the session by requesting that Senators complete a survey regarding potential new or extended offering of the Center for the Enhancement of Teaching and return the survey by Friday, October 28. Chair Gable thanked Sell for attending the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

5. Chair Gable distributed information regarding Faculty Productivity and explained the packet which she had mailed to the senators relative to defining productivity. She brought out the areas which the Senate might wish to investigate or undertake.

Brown expressed concern about whether the needs of the education community are being met and felt the faculty should be involved. He wondered if a subcommittee of the Senate should speak to the subject of productivity.

Primrose/Brown moved/seconded that the Faculty Senate should study the question of productivity. De Nault questioned whether the Senate could have a retreat to discuss productivity. Lounsberry indicated that she supported the idea. Primrose stated that faculty productivity should be kept in mind during the Strategic Planning process. Chair Gable mentioned that she is an ex-officio member of the Strategic Planning Committee and could bring this issue to their attention.

Reineke expressed that a critical issue is the public relations of faculty productivity and that there is an increased level of hostility that faculty are unproductive. She explained that faculty are vulnerable and not good at explaining to the public what faculty do all day. She raised the question as to how to get the message out on what faculty do with their time.

Provost Marlin noted that two years ago, the Board of Regents had an eye-opening experience when Grace Ann Hovet gave the UNI portion of a report on faculty productivity.

De Nault stated that it was counter-productive to view the public in a negative manner. An informed public could be a great source of support for faculty regarding productivity.

Lounsberry wondered if productivity is examined what can be said to people about the quality of what happens here at UNI. Conklin stated that a student had remarked there is no time while in college to learn for the joy of learning. It was asked if a resource person is available to guide and give direction to the Senate on how to approach productivity. De Nault disagreed and felt the Senate should meet just as the Senate to discuss productivity. Chair Gable commented that there is a budget used for printing of minutes which could be used to fund a retreat.

De Nault/Primrose moved/seconded to amend the motion to request the Chair organize a retreat for the Senate to discuss faculty productivity.
Amendment carried.

Motion carried.

There being no further business, Primrose/Brown moved/seconded to adjourn.
Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 5 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Uhlenhopp
Secretary

These minutes shall stand approved as published unless corrections or protests are filed with the Secretary of the Senate within two weeks of this date, November 3, 1994.